



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental
Conservation

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Health Laboratory

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March 1, 2019

RE: Environmental Health Laboratory schedule week of March 25 – March 29, 2019

To our valued clients:

Alaska state offices will be **closed** on **Monday, March 25th** in observance of Seward's Day.

As a result, the sample acceptance schedule for **Mar. 25-Mar. 29** must be modified, as follows:

- Shellfish Growing Water (SGW) samples will be accepted on Tuesday Mar. 26, Wednesday Mar. 27, and by noon on Thursday Mar. 28.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) commercial samples will be accepted Tuesday Mar. 26, Wednesday Mar. 27, Thursday Mar. 28, and by noon on Friday Mar. 29.
- Raw meat samples will be accepted Tuesday Mar. 26-Friday Mar. 29, however meat samples are pooled for efficiency, and tested generally once a week.
- Slaughter sponge samples are good for 24 hours per USDA. Sponges will be accepted for testing Tuesday Mar. 26, Wednesday Mar. 27, and by noon Thursday Mar. 28, unless written extension provided to hold longer than 24 hours for testing.
- Manufactured and Cottage food samples will be accepted Tuesday Mar. 26– Friday Mar. 29, however the testing will be conducted when samples are pooled for efficiency.
- Wet Storage samples will be accepted on Tuesday Mar. 26 and by noon on Wednesday Mar. 27.
- Dairy testing is scheduled once a month, as usual, and is scheduled for week of March 11th and then April 1st.
- Paralytic Shellfish Toxin (PST) recreational/research testing by HPLC/PCOX is scheduled once a month, and is scheduled for week of March 4th and then April 1st.

Normal sample acceptance schedules resume on Monday, April 1, 2019.

Assistance is available with timing of samples collections, completion of submission forms, packaging, temperature requirements, shipping, and sample tracking. Sampling questions, planned sampling activities, and shipping notifications, can be made to DEC.EH-Lab-ShippingReceiving@alaska.gov or 907-375-8231.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patryce D. McKinney".

Patryce D. McKinney, MBA
Chief, Environmental Health Laboratory